J J School of Arts in Mumbai

347. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Art Schools in the country such as J J School of Arts in Mumbai are properly funded;

(b) whether they have adequate teaching staff; and

(c) if not, what steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) J J School of Arts in Mumbai is not funded by the Ministry of Culture. There is no specific scheme for funding Art Schools.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Coronation of Guru Granth Sahib

348. SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government for celebration of 300th Years of Coronation of Guru Granth Sahib which is being celebrated in Nanded, Maharashtra this year;

(b) the details of the scheme approved by various Departments of Government and the budget allocated for these;

(c) the details of the progress of schemes; and

(d) whether Government has also given grants for other places connected with Guru Gobind Singh in India?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) Government of India is commemorating Tercentenary of Guru-ta-Gaddi of Shri Guru Granth Sahib. A National Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Hon'ble Home Minister and under Co-chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Maharashtra to approve policies, plans, programmes and supervise and guide the commemoration of Guru-ta-Gaddi celebrations.

At Nanded, a number of programmes and projects have been undertaken which include infrastructure development of Gurudwara area, development of city infrastructure and completion of a museum. The priority projects are proposed to be completed in year 2008. While the focus of the commemoration is in Nanded, some projects and programmes are also proposed to be undertaken in other important places associated with Guru Gobind Singhji like development of Anandpur Sahib and development of Talwandi Sabo.

Buddhist link between Orissa and Sri Lanka

349. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state: